

Message Text

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TAGS: PGOV PINT CM
SUBJECT: MINISTERIAL CHANGES

REF: YAOUNDE 2228

1. (BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED) BY PRESIDENTIAL DECREE OF MAY 2, 1978,
DR. MAIKANO ABDOULAYE, THE FORMER MINISTER OF LIVESTOCK AND
ANIMAL INDUSTRY WAS NAMED MINISTER OF PUBLIC SERVICE. HE WAS
REPLACED BY MR. AYANG LUC.

2. DR. MAIKANO WAS BORN IN 1932 AT GASCHIGA NEAR GAROUA AND IN
1964 OBTAINED A DOCTORATE IN VETERINARY MEDICINE FROM TOULOUSE,
FRANCE. HE PREVIOUSLY SERVICED AS MINISTER OF PUBLIC SERVICE FROM
JUNE 1970 TO JULY 1972 AND WAS MINISTER OF PLAN AND TERRITORIAL
ADMINISTRATION FROM THAT DATE UNTIL JUNE 1975 WHEN HE WAS NAMED
MINISTER OF LIVESTOCK AND ANIMAL INDUSTRY. DR MAIKANO IS A
CLOSE PERSONAL FRIEND OF PRESIDENT AHIDJO AND RETURNS TO THE
MINISTRY IN ORDER TO GIVE IT EXPERIENCED DIRECTION UNDER TRYING
CIRCUMSTANCES.

3. MR. AYANG LUC IS THE LATEST EXAMPLE OF THE PROMOTION OF
BRIGHT, YOUNG TECHNOCRATS TO POSITIONS OF RESPONSIBILITY. A
MUSLIM BORN IN 1945, HE COMES FROM THE SAME AREA YEAR YAGOUA IN
NORTH CAMEROON AS DOES THE PREVIOUS MINISTER OF PUBLIC SERVICE,
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TCHINAYE VROUMSIA. THUS HE CONTINUES REPRESENTING THE INTEREST
OF THIS PART OF THE COUNTRY AT THE MINISTERIAL LEVEL, BUT WITHOUT
THE PRESITIGE OF VROUMSIA, A GRADUATE OF THE NATIONAL SCHOOL OF
ADMINISTRATION AND MAGISTRATURE (ENAM) AYANG WAS, AT THE TIME OF
HIS APPOINTMENT, FIRST ASSISTANT PREFET AT NGAOUNDERE. HE
PREVIOUSLY SERVICED AS CHIEF OF THE LEGISLATION AND REGULATION
DIVISION IN THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S OFFICE AT THE PRESIDENCY.

AYANG IS A PROTEGE OF PRESIDENT AHIDJO'S. (END UNCLASSIFIED)

4. COMMENT: (BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE) THE REASON FOR THIS ABRUPT MINISTERIAL CHANGE IS TRACED TO THE GRADUATION CEREMONIES AT ENAM ON APRIL 29. ACCORDING TO ALL REPORTS VROUMSIA (KNOWN TO HAVE A DRINKING PROBLEM) APPEARED DRUNK FOR THE FESTIVITIES AT 10 IN THE MORNING. HE NOT ONLY WAS UNABLE TO GIVE A COHERENT DELIVERY OF HIS PREPARED SPEECH, BUT IS REPORTED TO HAVE SAID THAT REGARDLESS OF ANY OTHER CONSIDERATIONS, THE ENAM GRADUATES SHOULD REMEMBER THAT THEY ARE WORKING FOR NORTHERNERS AND THEY SHOULD NOT MAKE ANY PLANS UNTIL PRESIDENT AHIDJO HAS AN OPPORTUNITY TO CLEAR THEM WITH PRESIDENT GISGARD D'ESTAING OF FRANCE. ANOTHER VERSION HAS VROUMSIA SAYING THAT AHIDJO WENT TO FRANCE TO DISCUSS WITH GISCARD THE FORMATION OF A NEW GOVERNMENT AFTER THE UPCOMING PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS WHEN IT SHOULD HAVE BEEN HE (VROUMSIA) WHO WAS CONSULTED. WHILE WE ARE UNABLE TO VERIFY WHETHER OR NOT VROUMSIA MADE THESE EXACT STATEMENTS, HE APPARENTLY DISGRACED HIMSELF SO MUCH IN PUBLIC THAT PRESIDENT AHIDJO, WHO HAD JUST RETURNED THAT DAY FROM HAVING LUNCH WITH GISGARD ON THE 27TH, (SEE REFTEL) HAD NO ALTERNATIVE BUT TO SACK HIM. VROUMSIA A ISLAMIZED KIRIDI (FULANI FOR PAGAN), WAS CONSIDERED TO BE VERY CLOSE TO AHIDJO AND HAD BEEN REFERRED TO BY SOME AS THE "DAUPHIN"--A DESIGNATION WHICH WAS AT THE VERY LEAST PREMATURE. THE SPECULATION IS, OF COURSE, WHETHER VROUMSIA WILL SUFFER ANY OTHER PUNISHMENT FOR HIS TRANSGRESSIONS. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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HOWEVER, BEING CAST INTO THE DARKNESS OUTSIDE THE GOVERNMENT USUALLY SUFFICES TO SOBER UP EVEN THE MOST INEBRIATE. (END LIMITED OFFICIAL USE) MITHOEFER

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